



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Advisory Circular

Subject: ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY: **Date:** 5/23/89
INDUSTRY-DEVELOPED TRANSITION TRAINING Initiated by: AFS-840
GUIDELINES FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT

AC No: 61-103 .
Change:

1. PURPOSE. This advisory circular (AC) informs all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certificated pilots and flight instructors of the availability of industry-developed guidelines for pilots **transitioning** into high performance single and **multiengine piston-powered** small airplanes and single and multiengine turbopropeller small airplanes.

2. RELATED FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS (FAR) SECTIONS. FAR Section **61.31(e)** prescribes **minimum** requirements for private and **commercial** pilots to act as pilot in **command** of high performance airplanes (those with more than **200** horsepower, or that have retractable landing gear, flaps, and a controllable propeller),

3. RELATED READING MATERIAL. AC **61-9** (current edition), Pilot Transition Courses for **Complex** Single-Engine and Light Twin-Engine Airplanes.

4. BACKGROUND.

a. Airplanes produced in recent years have become increasingly **complex** as large numbers of high performance aircraft have been added to the general aviation fleet. Many of these airplanes include advanced features such as retractable landing gear, turbocharging, pressurization, sophisticated avionics, and other items which add operational complexity. In addition, an increasing percentage of these aircraft are **turbine-**powered. Furthermore, the operating **environment** itself has become complex, requiring pilots to be proficient in operating high performance aircraft in high density air traffic environments.

b. To address the need for a standard training syllabus for pilots **transitioning** into high performance aircraft, the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (**GAMA**) has developed a Transition Training Master Syllabus (**GAMA** Specification No. 5). This document is a general outline of the items which **GAMA recommends be** included in the ground and flight training of pilots **transitioning** into specific airplanes. **The** master syllabus lists groups of airplane makes and models produced by its member **companies which** are sufficiently similar so that a pilot **trained** or experienced in one airplane model would not normally require full transition training to operate another model in that group.

c. The master syllabus developed by GAMA can be used by manufacturers, certificated flight instructors, training organizations, aviation publishers, and others to develop transition training guides for specific airplanes or groups of airplane models. If necessary, these transition training guides could provide for differences in training to cover variations in model groupings. GAMA intends that the master syllabus can be used to produce transition training guides for any high performance airplane and not just those manufactured by its member companies.

d It should be noted that the GAMA master syllabus is not intended for use in developing training programs or guides for pilots **transitioning** into airplanes for which a type rating is required by FAR Section 61.31(a), for airplanes with engines of 200 horsepower or less that do not have retractable landing gear, flaps, and a **controllable** propeller, or for amateur-built experimental aircraft. Furthermore, it was not developed for **rotorcraft**, gliders, or lighter-than-air aircraft.

e. The FAR do not require specific instruction or training for each high performance aircraft **model** or model grouping, other than the one-time requirement of FAR Section 61.31(e) for a checkout in any model high performance airplane, prior to serving as pilot in command of such an airplane. Operators **transitioning** into different high performance aircraft models, however, may wish to use an available transition training guide as an aid to conversion to the new model(s). In such cases, operators could use the GAMA publication, an FAA publication such as AC 61-9 (current edition), or other similar guidelines published by **industry**.

5 HOW TO ORDER. The Transition Training Master Syllabus may be obtained by writing or calling:

General Aviation Manufacturers Association
Suite 801
1400 K Street
Washington, D.C. 20005-2485
Telephone: (202) 393-1500



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